



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

PROGRAM E-SPOTLIGHT

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U K R A I N E

USAID Supports the Establishment of an Evidence-Based Medicine Center on Obstetrics, Gynecology and Reproductive Health in Ukraine

On February 26 USAID's *Together for Health* project and the National Medical Academy of Postgraduate Education named after P.L. Shupik joined together to establish an evidence-based medicine center on obstetrics, gynecology and reproductive health in Ukraine.



Ribbon cutting

(from left to right: Vasyl Lazoryshynets, Deputy Minister of Health of Ukraine, Yuriy Voronenko, rector of National Medical Academy of Postgraduate Education named after P.L. Shupik, and Asta Maria Kenney, COP, "Together for Health" project)

The main objective of the Center is to support the implementation of evidence-based medicine into medical policy and practice, developing the regulatory framework for obstetrics and gynecology, especially family planning and reproductive health.

The *Together for Health* project has trained methodologists who will be involved in the work of

the Center, preparing informational materials, clinical standards, protocols, guidelines and medical education curricula on obstetrics and gynecology, especially family planning and reproductive health, to help expand the implementation of evidence-based medicine into medical practice.

The Center is located in the Department of Obstetrics, Gynecology and Reproductive Health at the National Medical Academy of Postgraduate Education.

Supporting Activities of Judicial Qualification Commissions: Candidate Selection, Evaluation and Disciplinary Responsibility of Judges

The Rule of Law conducted several seminars between February 21-29 in Kharkiv, Odesa and Lviv to support activities of judicial qualification commissions in the area of candidate selection, evaluation and disciplinary responsibility of judges. The event was attended by about 60 chairs and members of judicial qualification commissions, and officials representing local branches of the State Judiciary Administration.



At the seminar

During the seminar, representatives of all regional qualification commissions, the State Judiciary Administration and the High Council of

Justice discussed priority issues in the areas of judge selection, evaluation and disciplinary responsibility, and developing materials for judicial appointments.

In addition, the attendees put forth a series of recommendations that are designed to improve existing procedures and documentation quality, accelerate processing of judicial appointment cases, and secure enforcement of the disciplinary actions that are imposed by the commissions.

Ukrainian Ostrich Association Project

The week of January 4, the USAID's *Farmer-to-Farmer Program* started assistance to the *Ukrainian Ostrich Association* (Dnipropetrovsk oblast) to share essential knowledge of marketing techniques, ostrich feeding rations, and disease management.



At the ostrich farm
(from left to right: Elena Kovalska, CNFA FtF Project Coordinator, Sasha Kishko, CNFA FtF interpreter, Cesar Flores, CNFA FtF volunteer consultant)

Within the framework of the program, a *Farmer-to-Farmer* volunteer consultant, Cesar Flores, is currently working to improve the Association's marketing performance. The volunteer is focusing on the development of practical marketing skills of the Association's members and on issues that are relevant to the association's marketing function. During a number of trainings, Mr. Flores covered advanced approaches to marketing exotic meat and integration of marketing with the production, financing, and risk-bearing aspects of the business. The increased marketing expertise of the association members will allow them to expand existing markets and capture new ones, which will ultimately result in increased sales of ostrich meat and increased income for association members.

Future of the Mortgage Market in Ukraine: Threats to Development

The Round Table *Mortgage Market in Ukraine: Threats to Development* initiated jointly by the Ukrainian National Mortgage Association and the USAID's *Access to Credit Initiative* took place on February 20th.

Representatives of the National Bank of Ukraine, State Securities and Stock Market State Commission, State Mortgage Institution and over 10 leading banks gathered at the Round Table to discuss the current situation and key issues related to problems in the development at the mortgage lending arena, regulators' policy on the long-term lending issues, and promoting further development of reliable and long-term mortgage funding sources in Ukraine.

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M O L D O V A

Free Legal Assistance to Investigative Journalists

Lawyers for Human Rights recently launched a project offering free legal assistance to Moldovan journalists producing investigative articles and reports, including, for the first time, a "hot-line" for immediate counseling.

Assistance provided by *Lawyers for Human Rights* will help journalists avoid legal pitfalls that might leave them or their media outlets vulnerable to prosecutions or lawsuits. In addition, journalists subject to legal proceedings, who observed professional ethics during their investigations, will receive free representation by the association's lawyers in domestic proceedings.

The project is supported by the Strengthening Civil Society Monitoring Capacity in Moldova (SCSMCM) Program within the framework of

the Millennium Challenge Corporation's (MCC) Threshold Country Program (TCP) for Moldova.

The SCSMCM Program seeks to strengthen the monitoring and advocacy capacity of civil society organizations and mass media to help prevent and deter corruption in Moldova.

Local Company's Success Inspires Industry Partners

On February 6, senior management from over 30 Moldovan apparel companies participated in a roundtable on strategic marketing and branding. The event was organized by the Competitiveness Enhancement and Enterprise Development (CEED) project within the 2008 Made in Moldova exhibition.



Olga Ceban, General Director, shares her company's secrets to success.

The roundtable focused on the importance of strategic marketing and branding as means to increase revenues. Olga Ceban, a General Director of Moldovan lingerie company, was showcased as a success story for industry members. Within three months of launching its re-styled "Ravetti" brand, Olga Ceban's revenues increased by 60% compared to the same quarter of the previous year.

The CEED project is working with a number of local apparel companies to enhance their competitiveness and help build a sustainable industry cluster.

USAID Project Awards Journalists for Coverage of Domestic Violence and Gender Issues

On February 29, the Moldova Anti-Trafficking Initiative (MATI) honored nine journalists for their coverage of domestic violence and gender discrimination. The journalism competition was established to recognize and encourage effective press efforts to raise awareness of domestic violence in Moldova, where over 40% of women have been victims of violent acts at least once in their lives.



Svetlana Panta (first prize winner) and Diana Railean (third prize winner) from Ziarul de Garda celebrate their awards.

Prizes were awarded by MATI and its partner, the *Independent Journalism Center*. Submissions were solicited in December 2007 as a part of the 16 Days of Activism Against Gender Violence international awareness campaign. The nine awardees received official certificates as well as cash prizes of up to \$125.

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